


RESEARCH TO PREVENT BLINDNESS, INC.

a program for saving sight

1970
ANNUAL
REPORT

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80%

of all blindness
in the United States
is the result of
eye diseases.

**Most blindness is
due to:**

- **Cataract**
- **Glaucoma**
- **Diabetic Retinopathy**
- **Retinal Degeneration**

The causes of these diseases are unknown. They cannot be prevented, nor can many other widespread diseases which seriously damage the eyes.

Without far greater scientific knowledge of these conditions, more than 500,000 Americans will certainly become blind during the decade of the 70's. Millions more will suffer serious visual loss.

Prevention of blindness at this catastrophic level is possible.

- The nation's full research potential for preventing blindness has hardly been tapped.
- Science and technology have extended man's capabilities for medical research far beyond those ever before available.
- Such capabilities are at last being used for eye research—through the programs of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

Research

is the Answer.

Clinical Eye Research

to provide the practicing ophthalmologist with increasingly effective means to treat and cure—to save the sight of patients whose needs are urgent and immediate.

Basic Eye Research

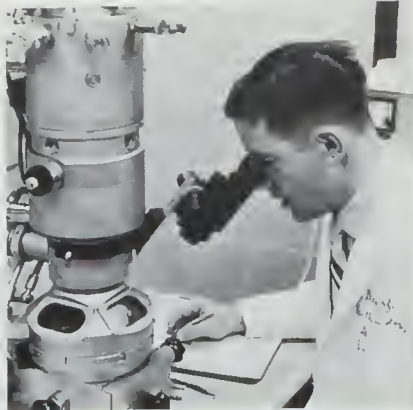
to find and eradicate the causes of blinding diseases and reveal the fundamental nature of the visual process so that disease may be prevented.

Excellence in research is the result of intelligent planning—planning which successfully brings together the people,

the equipment, the space, the ideas and the necessary resources to make maximum use of the magnificent opportunities now available to modern medical science.

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. has initiated and is carrying out such plans. Its far-reaching programs offer realistic hope for the control of eye diseases that threaten to destroy the sight of the young and the old, the sick and the well, the affluent as well as those in need.

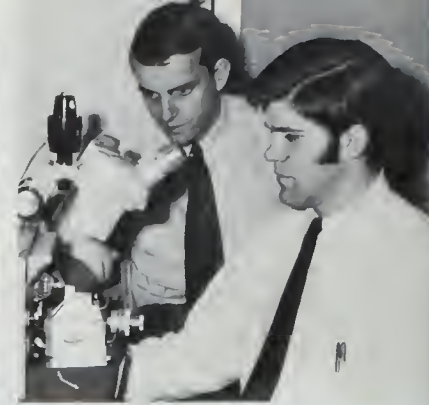




RPB Grantee— University of Louisville



RPB Grantee— University of California,
Los Angeles



RPB Grantee— Johns Hopkins University

The RPB Program for Saving Sight

RPB is involved in far more than grantsmanship. Its purpose is not only to support eye research, but to provide leadership in building a scientific environment in which every penny expended on research will be used efficiently and effectively.

Annual Grants

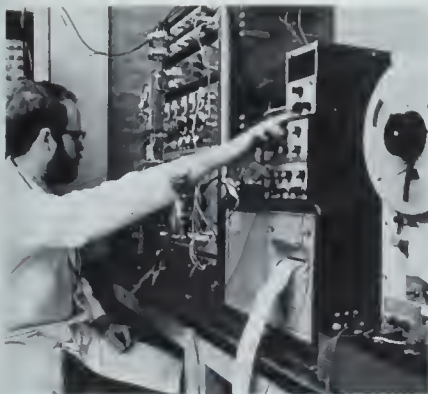
RPB's annual unrestricted research grants play a key role in the development of strong eye research programs at more than 40 medical institutions across the nation. They stimulate new research, protect ongoing projects, eliminate delays, build enthusiasm and confidence, and clear the way for effective research. Scientists call these funds "the most useful money we receive" in terms of their influence upon the total eye research effort.

Constructing Laboratories

Modern eye research centers created through RPB's unique laboratory construction program are opening up new frontiers in the prevention of blindness. The critical need for adequate laboratory space is being met by RPB as intensified research activity brings new opportunities for saving sight. RPB has channeled more than \$16 million into the construction of new eye research facilities from coast to coast.

Developing Manpower

Eye research is conducted by men and women highly trained in specialties that cover a broad spectrum of medical and physical sciences. RPB programs are assisting research departments in attracting outstanding investigators whose services are essential to the conquest of blinding diseases. Through RPB Research Professorships, Manpower Awards and other incentives, RPB gives support to talented manpower upon whom the success of eye research depends.



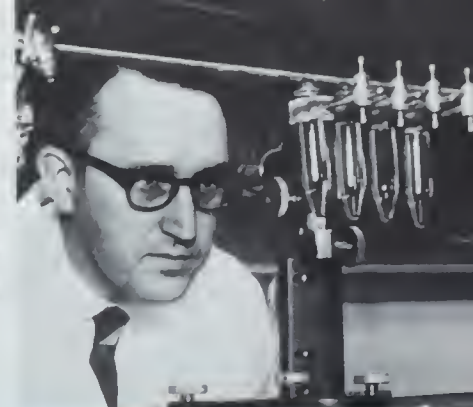
RPB Grantee—Baylor University



RPB Grantee—Harvard University



RPB Provides Congressional Testimony



RPB Grantee—Yale University

Providing Equipment

RPB funds are contributing to the design, development, production and purchase of a wide range of advanced instruments that utilize new technologies in attacking age-old problems of ophthalmology. These implements are speeding the pace of eye research by years, even decades. Many are serving the ophthalmologist in better diagnosis, safer surgery, more effective therapy. Their availability is permitting scientists and physicians to accomplish what never before was possible.

Spreading Knowledge

Research findings, ideas, concepts, information—these are the fuels which provide the major thrust toward scientific discovery. RPB programs are designed to stimulate the widest possible dissemination and sharing of knowledge in vision research. RPB-supported seminars, professional conferences and meetings, training courses, publications, international exchanges and other means of communication are speeding the flow of knowledge from laboratory to laboratory, and from physician to patient.

Legislative Action

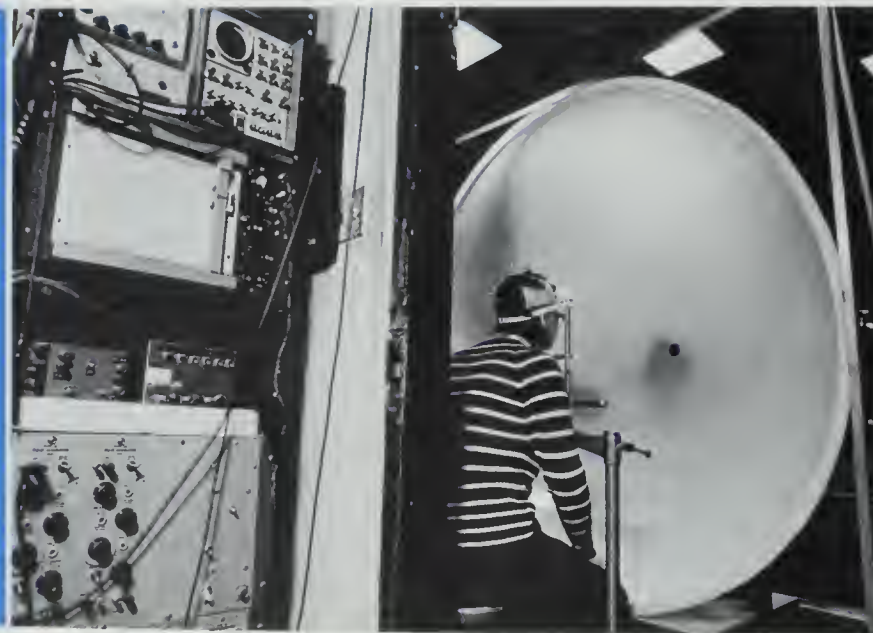
RPB has won for eye research the interest and support of the United States Congress, whose Federal appropriations provide the major share of financial aid to medical research. By presenting factual testimony to Congressional committees each year, and by continuous contact with legislative leaders, RPB is raising the level of government support to research in vision. Legislation establishing a National Eye Institute is a landmark achievement of RPB action.

Setting New Goals

RPB's programs are rapidly changing national goals regarding the problem of blindness. Its concepts move far beyond traditional acceptance of blindness as a fact of life, to be dealt with after it happens. With fresh insights into the nature of visual failure, it has set the goal of controlling blinding diseases *before* they destroy sight. It is replacing fear and resignation with hope based on realistic action.

The Impact of the RPB Program

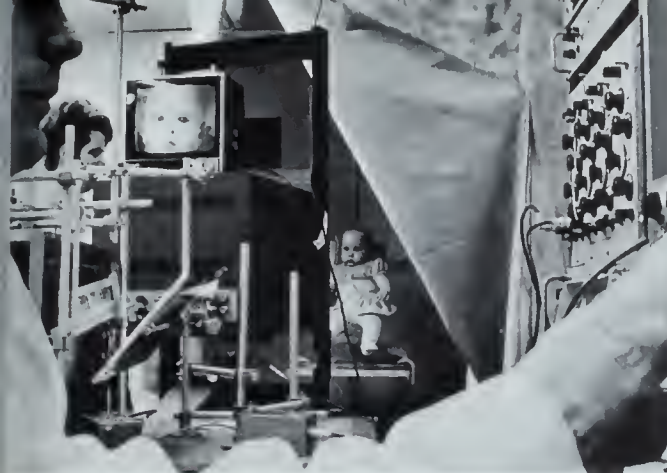
Newly developed technology has opened limitless opportunities for study of the process of sight. Apparatus below records the electrical activity which occurs in the brain when light enters the eye. RPB Grantee—University of Chicago



Testing for amblyopia and strabismus at a treatable age. While the seated baby intently watches television, his eye movements are also being televised and taped for study by the physician. RPB Grantee—Union University, Albany Medical College

Eye research did not begin with RPB. Physicians and scientists back into antiquity have sought to study the eye and the mysterious process of vision. Gifted researchers have achieved an extraordinary amount of knowledge, considering the enormous limitations imposed by the intricacy of the visual system and its pathways to the brain.

These limitations are disappearing as a result of the explosion of modern science and technology. Whole critical aspects of the living eye and its function have all at once become far more accessible to accurate observation and understanding, to successful manipulation and



Harnessing the laser for eye surgery. Its intense light is used safely to "weld" a detached retina in place.
RPB Grantee—New York University

treatment. New worlds of knowledge are being revealed through unprecedented developments in microbiology, biochemistry, physics and other sciences uniquely adaptable to eye research.

Yet, until a decade ago ophthalmology had neither the organized "voice" nor the influential lay involvement to launch the full-scale assault upon blinding diseases that had become possible.

RPB was established in 1960 to make that possibility a reality. This small, businesslike group brought together leaders in ophthalmology and related sciences to design a fresh approach to the problem of

blindness in the light of new opportunities for greatly intensified eye research. The program that evolved is dynamic, efficient and effective. It is comprehensive, yet economical. And it has had an electrifying effect upon the science of saving sight.

RPB grants totalling \$1,575,000 have gone to 44 medical institutions. These annual awards are unique in that their expenditure is not restricted to specified projects. As a result, they provide research directors with unlimited flexibility in fulfilling the purpose of the grants, which is "to strengthen and improve the scope and the calibre" of their investigations.

The impact of the RPB grants program strikes deep into the dynamics of research. One of the most eminent of ophthalmic scientists, chairman of a major department of ophthalmology, evaluated his grant in these terms:

"The unrestricted nature of these funds gives our faculty a feeling of freedom and lack of administrative inhibition which stimulates an aggressive attitude toward research and makes it possible to follow through with ideas and new leads as they arise. It eliminates the cooling off period which can be the beginning of the end for many worthwhile projects."



The physician's ability to observe, diagnose and treat potentially blinding diseases is being vastly extended as the findings of eye research are applied to the problems of patients.
RPB Grantee—Boston University



Fundus camera developed with RPB funds enables the physician to make stereoscopic color photos of areas in back of the patient's eye during examination.

RPB Grantee—University of Texas



Therapeutic 'soft' contact lens is used to protect the surface of the eye of a young patient from exposure in the treatment of a diseased cornea.

RPB Grantee—Columbia University

The availability of RPB funds has enormously increased the capabilities of eye research teams. It has been a boon to emerging research groups, speeding their growth and development, providing essential equipment, increasing their influence and effectiveness in the competition for institutional funds. For established investigators, RPB grants provide important opportunities for increasing the range and the pace of research activities. They have sparked the advancement of

pioneering concepts, for which funds are seldom available.

Time and again, RPB-supported research has been the testing ground for work which has later qualified for substantial Federal support. The development of the laser for ophthalmic therapy occurred in such fashion—a splendid example of the important role played by RPB in complementing and stimulating government support of medical research.

A Brighter Outlook in

- **Diagnosis**
- **Treatment**
- **Surgery**



Premature baby being examined for signs of retrolental fibroplasia, once responsible for much infant blindness until research revealed excess oxygen as the cause.

RPB Grantee—Vanderbilt University



Measuring the effect of static exercise on pressure within the eye in development of a tonometry screening test for glaucoma.

RPB Grantee—University of Wisconsin

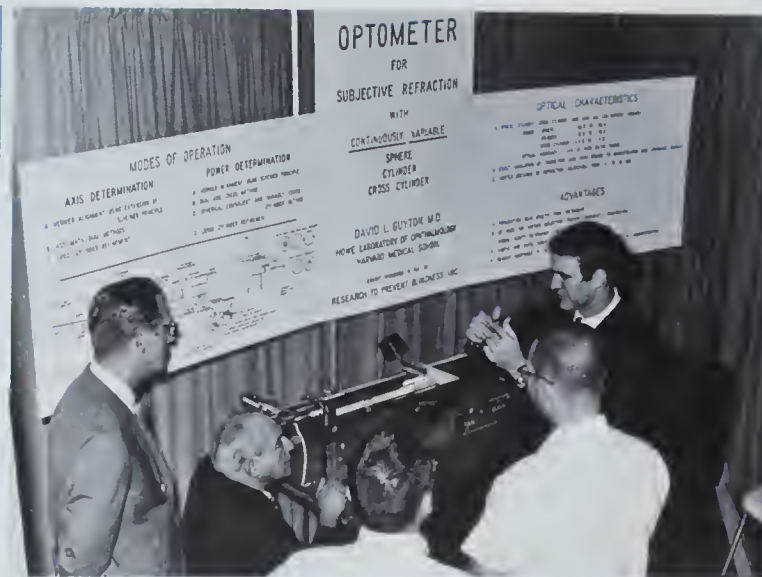


Isolated inhabitants of Pacific's Pingelap Island, with unusually high degree of total color blindness, provided researchers with important insight into the genetic nature of this condition.

RPB Grantee—New York University

- More than 300,000 cataract operations were performed in the United States in 1970—and 98 percent were successful.
- A plastic cornea restored the sight of a man who had been "incurably" blind for 31 years.
- Dramatic results were being obtained through the use of a newly-developed "soft" contact lens in the treatment of corneal disease.
- A new instrument for the safe and efficient removal of diseased vitreous from within the eye was being perfected.
- A promising new drug was reported as controlling glaucoma in many patients who otherwise were medically unmanageable.

Each year, the progress reports of RPB grantees bring more hopeful news for many already threatened by potentially blinding diseases. Clinical research provides the eye physician with a growing number of alternatives in his efforts to safeguard the visual system from the damaging effects of these conditions. Never before has the ophthalmologist been better equipped to care for his patients. With new knowledge he is not only saving sight, but often restoring it. And beyond all the knowledge presently available, he seeks a whole world of understanding which can only be opened through intensive research.



A device which automatically measures the refraction of the eye, exhibited at the 1970 meeting of the Association for Research in Ophthalmology. The patient's prescription may be read directly from the instrument

RPB Grantee—Harvard University



Electroretinography is an important diagnostic procedure in determining the genetic nature of certain retinal disorders, and a valuable aid in genetic counseling.

RPB Grantee—Indiana University

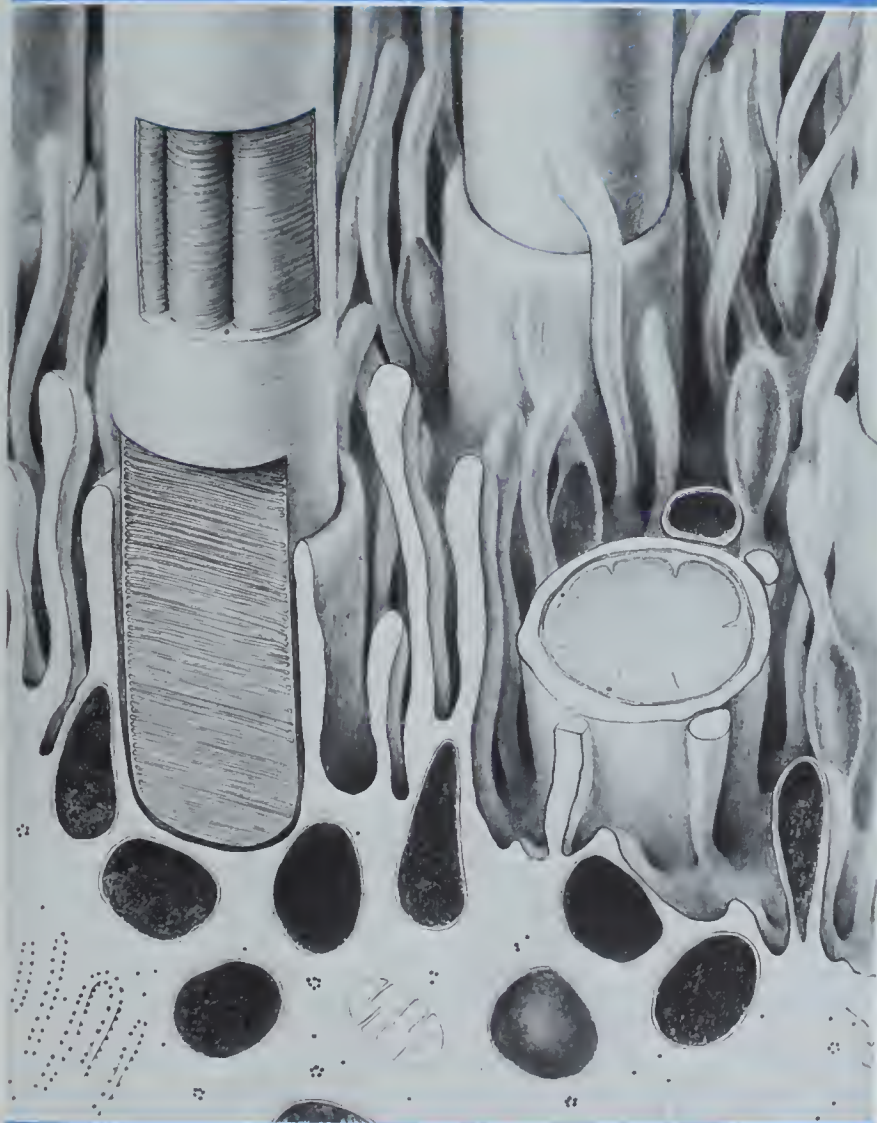
Preparing a laboratory animal for observation of changes that occur in the lens metabolism as a result of enzyme activity, in an effort to learn how cataracts are formed.

RPB Grantee—University of Maryland



Three-dimensional drawing made from electron microscopy studies of the structure and relationship of visual cells, one of many illustrations prepared with RPB assistance for textbook dealing with the minute structure, composition and function of ocular tissues.

RPB Grantee—University of California, San Francisco



A new microsurgical instrument for the safe and efficient removal of diseased vitreous within the globe of the eye is in an advanced stage of perfection. The instrument permits the use of a revolutionary operative technique, performed under direct observation by the surgeon, using the operating microscope and a fundus contact lens.

RPB Grantee—University of Miami

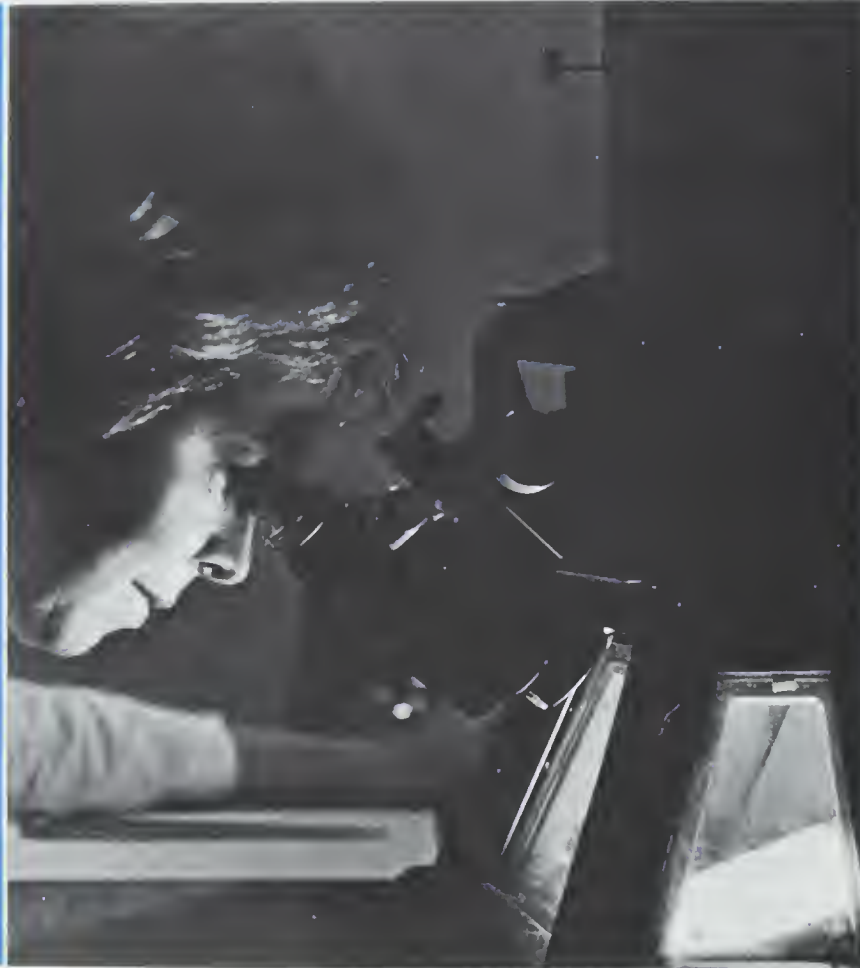
Studying critical areas of the retina under the powerful electron microscope. Completion of an electron microscopy laboratory with RPB funds will permit this investigator to seek government support of basic investigations into the causes of retinal detachment.

RPB Grantee—University of Oregon

As a television camera scans a subject's retina through the ophthalmoscope, information obtained from the images is relayed to a computer in the room beyond for recording and analysis.

RPB Grantee—Jefferson Medical College

Tracing the Causes of Blindness and the Nature of Sight



- What causes the lens to lose its normal clarity and become opaque (cataract) so that light cannot reach the retina?
- What controls the natural transport of fluid into and out of the eye which, when disordered, permits pressure to build up dangerously, resulting in glaucoma?
- How does the retina change light waves into electrical signals to the brain that produce the images we call sight?
- What is the precise structure and function of the multitude of biological components which comprise the eye and the visual pathways to the brain?
- How are the components nourished; how are they affected by chemical changes, birth, growth, aging, genetic factors, and all the normal and abnormal challenges of the life process?



Questions of mammoth proportions, mountainous obstacles to the prevention of blinding diseases. Yet, scientists have never been more confident that the questions will be answered. Some pieces already are falling into place. Specific enzymes have been implicated as probable causative agents in one type of cataract, and in sight-blocking opacities of the cornea. The electron microscope has opened a window into the micro-world of rods and cones that flash visual impulses to the brain. An extraordinary—and extremely encouraging—finding has been the revelation that photoreceptor cells of the eye are continuously being naturally regenerated.

Findings such as these, and many others of similar importance and complexity, would be impossible without the knowledge and experience being brought to eye research by investigators in a wide range of basic sciences. As these efforts gather force, RPB funds are providing the complex equipment, opening up new laboratory space, assisting institutions in retaining trained basic scientists and technicians, stimulating ever-increasing interest and support for this important work.

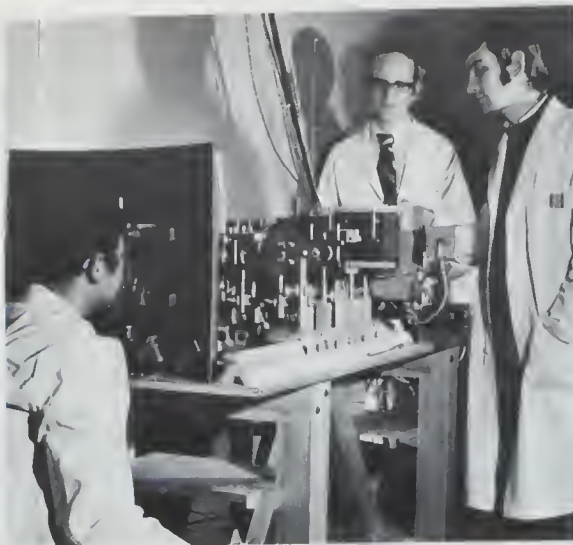


Prevention of retinoblastoma, a hereditary cancer of the eye in babies, is the goal of this expert tumor pathologist who is attempting with RPB support to produce the experimental disease in a newborn hamster.
RPB Grantee—The Retina Foundation



Tissue culture technique is used in an effort to identify differing characteristics between normal cells and those obtained from glaucoma patients.
RPB Grantee—Washington University, St. Louis

Unusual eye problems are captured with the Video Tape Recorder for teaching purposes, patient progress records, and long distance consultation among physicians with similar equipment.
RPB Grantee—Indiana University



Apparatus—a double monochrometer—designed and constructed with RPB funds to permit the inauguration of precise classification and study of patients and families with color vision deficiencies.
RPB Grantee—University of California, Los Angeles, Jules Stein Eye Institute

Studying the physical properties of eye tissue to measure the eye's adaptability to changes in intraocular pressure.
RPB Grantee—Temple University



RPB Special Grants

The Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO) again was awarded an RPB Special Grant in 1970 to assist in the development of that organization's programs for the advancement of ophthalmological research, treatment and teaching. The AUPO and RPB have worked closely in strengthening every aspect of the science of ophthalmology.

An RPB Special Grant also made possible the annual Ophthalmic Biochemistry Conference at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, one of the most important scientific meetings in a field of major significance to eye research.

A Place to Grow

Eye research must have room to grow. The meager laboratory space of another era is totally inadequate for the work of today. During 1970 the part-time researcher continued to be replaced by teams of full-time investigators trained in a wide diversity of scientific specialties. Their tools are the complex instruments of modern research, capable of extending and speeding human efforts to new limits.

To meet their practical need for more and better eye research space, RPB continued to provide unique assistance to growing departments of ophthalmology through its Laboratory Construction Program. The year 1970 saw the opening of the fourth major eye center constructed as a result of the program, while plans for a fifth were in the final stages of development.



Completion of a \$6,600,000 wing for the Columbia-Presbyterian Institute of Ophthalmology, New York City, marked the fourth eye research center to be built under RPB's unique laboratory construction program. Dr. Jules Stein, chairman of RPB, and Mr. James S. Adams, its president (in business suits) are flanked by Dr. A. Gerard Devoe, director of the Institute, and Dr. George Smelser, director of ophthalmology research. The plaque honors RPB for its role in initiating and supporting the creation of this important eye research facility.

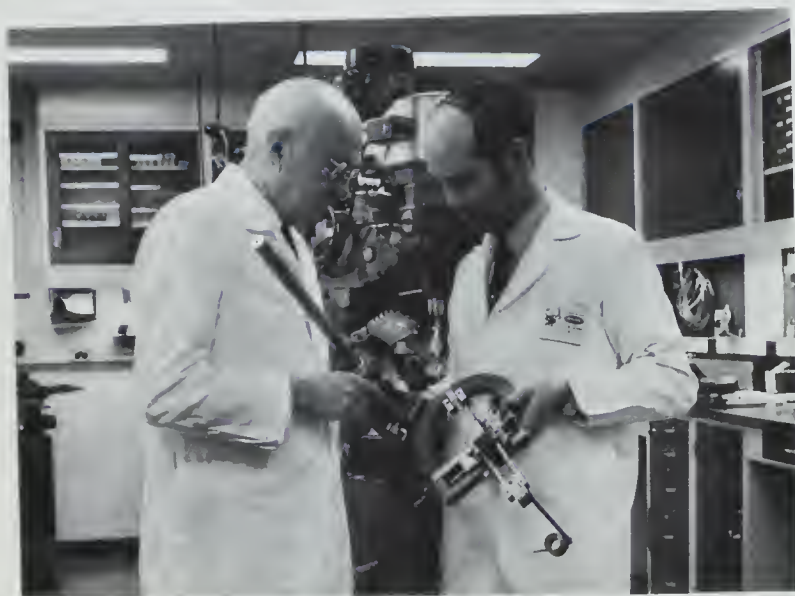
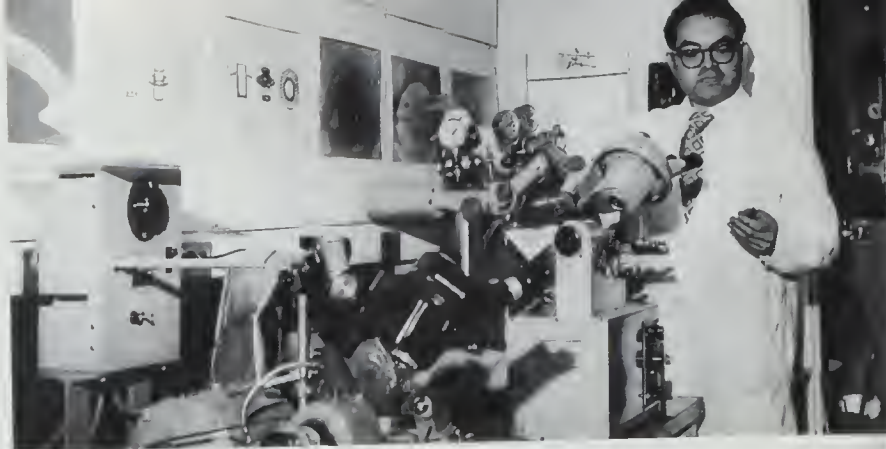
RPB Grantee—Columbia University

Modern laboratories of the newly constructed research facility provide scientists with critically needed space for the development of new concepts at the Columbia-Presbyterian Institute of Ophthalmology.

Right—Dr. Hernando Cardona explains his technique for inserting an artificial plastic cornea in the human eye, an achievement which has brought sight to many hopelessly blinded by corneal disease.

Below: Drs. Smelser (left) and Rosskothan examine advanced ultrasonic scanning device, 'home made' in the machine shop of the new facility. The apparatus permits precise ultrasound observation and measurement of inaccessible portions of the inner eye.

RPB Grantee—Columbia University

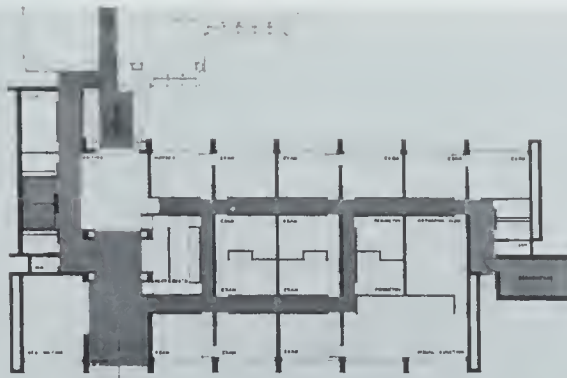


The splendid new facility is an eight-story, \$6,600,000 addition to the Columbia-Presbyterian Institute of Ophthalmology in New York City. Its completion permits this internationally recognized institution to expand research efforts that were being seriously impeded by lack of space. RPB urged the construction of this center to meet obviously growing needs. Through its program, it provided professional services for the development campaign and paid all fund raising costs (approximately two percent) so that all contributed funds went entirely to the Institute for construction purposes.

Today the bustling building is totally occupied and its

contributions to clinical research are being multiplied. In view of the discouraging economic conditions that have gripped the nation, RPB's initiation of the Columbia project was most timely. As the Director of the Institute recently stated, "It seems quite obvious now that if we had not begun the building at the time we did, it would never have been constructed."

The next major goal of RPB's construction program is a regional eye center to be built at Milwaukee for the Medical College of Wisconsin (formerly Marquette School of Medicine). The lack of adequate laboratory facilities has limited the full development of vision research at this institution, and plans have been developed for a campaign of approximately \$3,000,000.



Architect's drawings of the \$3,000,000 regional eye center which is the goal of an RPB laboratory construction campaign for the Medical College of Wisconsin, at Milwaukee. The new facility will be a major factor in the acceleration and broadening of both basic and clinical eye research at this institution.

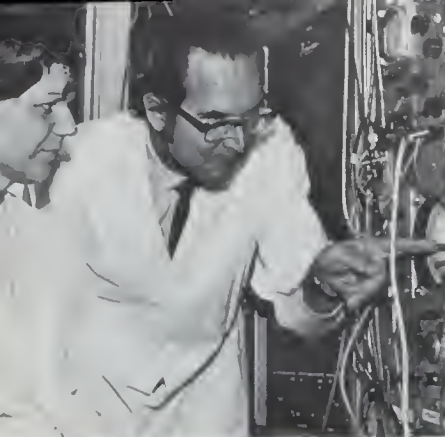
As in other campaigns, RPB already has underwritten the cost of a survey, as it will the fund raising and administration costs.

To December, 1970, the RPB Laboratory Construction Program had channeled \$16 million into facilities for eye research, had relieved medical institutions of fund raising costs and effort, had held those costs to approximately two percent, which it paid, and speeded the development of critically-needed laboratory space by years.

Today the eye centers created through RPB's program reach from coast to coast. In addition to the Columbia University facility in New York, other modern laboratories are now fully operative at the University of

California, Los Angeles (the Jules Stein Eye Institute), at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, and at Johns Hopkins University (the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute), Baltimore, Maryland. RPB has played a supportive role in a construction campaign at Duke University, North Carolina, has provided inspiration and advice for another at the University of Pennsylvania, and presently is reviewing plans for expansion at numerous other medical institutions which are giving increased emphasis to the growing need for intensified eye research.





RPB Grantee — University of Miami



RPB Grantee — University of California, Los Angeles



RPB International Research Scholars Dr. Otto J. Grusser (far left) and Dr. David O. Hall (center photo).

RPB Research Professor Dr. Douglas R. Anderson, of the University of Miami (near left).

Manpower and Moments of Opportunity

During 1970, RPB continued to give key financial assistance to selected investigators at precise moments of opportunity. It provided incentive for careers in eye research, supported unusually competent scientists at critical stages of their work, and encouraged collaboration among investigators on national and international levels.

RPB emergency salary support made it possible for Vanderbilt University to retain a key technician on an important project until approval of a Federal grant was assured. "The services of this person otherwise would have been lost," the department head reported. At the University of California, Los Angeles, RPB funds provided partial salary support for an outstanding

postdoctoral scientist. The Retina Foundation, Boston, found similar RPB support for an eminent tumor pathologist who was thus able to join the staff for important studies of retinoblastoma, a blinding and often fatal cancer of the eye.

An RPB Manpower Award, approved in 1970, will provide support to Dr. Yoshihito Honda, of Kyoto University, Japan, whose work in sustained organ culture of the retina is of special importance to ongoing research at Washington University, St. Louis.

The amounts involved in RPB grants for research personnel may range from several hundred dollars to far more substantial sums. Modeled to meet a wide variety of circumstances, they help put the right person in the right place at the right time.

RPB Eye Research Professors

Impressive contributions to basic understanding of the visual process are being made by RPB Research Professors Douglas R. Anderson, M.D., at the University of Miami, and Alan M. Laties, M.D., of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1970, scientific papers published as a result of their electron microscopy studies received wide professional attention. John E. Dowling, M.D., recipient of the first RPB Research Professorship, has been appointed Professor, Department of Biology, Harvard Medical School.

RPB International Research Scholars

Five new awards were made in 1970 to young, capable foreign



RPB Grantee—Retina Foundation

RPB International Research Scholars Dr. Toshiro Murata (left) and Drs. Enrico Reale and Liliana Luciano (near right).

At far right, RPB Research Professor Dr. Alan M. Laties (r) discusses microscopic section of retina with Dr. Charles Nichols.



RPB Grantee—University of California, San Francisco



RPB Grantee—University of Pennsylvania

scientists to provide their transportation for collaborative work in American laboratories for limited periods. The awards were for:

David O. Hall, Ph.D.—University of London, Kings College, for work at the Jules Stein Eye Institute of the University of California, Los Angeles.

Yashiaki Kitazawa, M.D.—Chiba University, Japan, for work at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Enrico Reale, M.D. and Liliana Luciano, M.D.—University of Hanover, Germany, for work at the University of California, San Francisco.

Otto J. Grusser, M.D.—Free University of Berlin, for work at the University of Miami, Florida.

Karl Ossoinig, M.D.—University of Vienna, for work at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Two other RPB International Scholars were collaborating in 1970 under awards made in 1969. They were Toshiro Murata, M.D., of the Shizuoka College of Pharmacy, Japan, participating in studies at the Retina Foundation, Boston, and August Colenbrander, M.D., of the University of Leyden, Netherlands, who worked at the University of Iowa.

RPB-Louis B. Mayer Scholars Program

A generous gift of \$75,000 from the Louis B. Mayer Foundation has enabled RPB to establish an important resource for scientists engaged in promising new research. The gift stipulates that a grant of \$25,000 be made to a different scientist in each of three consecutive years to carry on specific pioneering

investigations in vision. The recipients—to be known as Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.—Louis B. Mayer Scholars—will be selected by RPB from nominations made by heads of ophthalmology at the nation's medical institutions. The first grant will be made in 1971.

Assistance to Training Programs

Departments of ophthalmology continuously employ RPB funds to improve their training programs and attract the most promising people to ophthalmic research and practice.

At Harvard University Medical School an intensive course for prospective ophthalmologists, initiated three years ago with RPB support, is steering especially competent medical students

toward careers in eye research.

At Johns Hopkins University, a 400-page teaching manual for medical students was written and produced by the house staff of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute during 1970 with RPB funds.

At the University of California, San Francisco, in both the department of ophthalmology and the well-known Proctor Foundation, RPB provided support for the preparation of teaching atlases, textbooks, and stereophoto libraries on external diseases, giving assistance to teaching sessions for research fellows and residents, as well as students.

At every level of education and training, the programs of RPB are calling the best minds and hands to eye research.

Research to Prevent Blindness Unrestricted Grants

	1970 Grants	Total Granted Through 1970
Francis I. Proctor Foundation	\$ 5,000	\$ 55,000
Stanford University	5,000	10,000
University of California, Los Angeles	5,000	55,000
University of California, San Francisco	5,000	55,000
University of the Pacific—Institute of Medical Sciences		10,000
University of Colorado	5,000	35,000
Yale University	5,000	45,000
Georgetown University		20,000
George Washington University		10,000
University of Florida	5,000	45,000
University of Miami	5,000	55,000
University of Chicago	5,000	55,000
Indiana University	5,000	55,000
State University of Iowa	5,000	55,000
University of Louisville	5,000	40,000
Tulane University	5,000	45,000
Johns Hopkins University (Wilmer Institute of Ophthalmology)	5,000	55,000
University of Maryland	5,000	10,000
Boston University	5,000	20,000
Harvard University—Mass. Eye & Ear Inf. (Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology)	5,000	55,000
Retina Foundation	5,000	55,000
*Tufts University	2,500	7,500
Kresge Eye Institute		40,000
University of Michigan	5,000	55,000

"Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. is quietly making enormous contributions to the advancement of ophthalmology. It is an efficient vehicle through which ophthalmologists, scientists and influential laymen are working together effectively to meet the staggering problems of ophthalmic research, training and the delivery of patient care. RPB is a major factor in the renaissance now taking place in ophthalmic research and practice."

A. Edward Maumenee, M.D.
Johns Hopkins University



James S. Adams
Elected President
of RPB

James S. Adams, a major figure in the organization and development of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc., was elected President of RPB at the December, 1970 meeting of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Adams has had a key role in the planning and execution of RPB's programs, serving as Treasurer since its inception in 1960. A general partner of Lazard Freres & Co. for more than twenty years, he provides RPB with a wide resource of executive experience in finance, advertising and industry, combined with continuous voluntary service in the health field. Mr. Adams has been president, Standard Brands, Inc., executive vice president, Colgate-Palmolive Co., vice president and general manager, Benton & Bowles, Inc. and vice president, Johns-Manville Corporation. He is a director of Carter-Wallace, Inc. In the health field, he is an Honorary Life Member of the board of directors, American Cancer Society.

William C. Conner, of Fort Worth, Texas, long an RPB Trustee, was elected to the position of Treasurer, while two valuable additions were made to Board membership. They are attorney Graham D. Mattison, of New York, director of numerous national and international corporate enterprises, and David A. Werblin, president of Raritan Enterprises, Inc. and prime mover in establishing the New York Jets professional football team.

	1970 Grants	Total Granted Through 1970
University of Minnesota	5,000	55,000
Washington University	5,000	55,000
Columbia University	5,000	55,000
Cornell University		50,000
Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration		10,000
Mt. Sinai Hospital	5,000	30,000
New York University	5,000	55,000
†* Union University		
(The Albany Medical College)	2,500	2,500
Yeshiva University		
(Albert Einstein College of Medicine)		20,000
Duke University	5,000	25,000
University of Oregon	5,000	55,000
Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia	5,000	30,000
Temple University—Wills Eye Hospital	5,000	20,000
University of Pennsylvania	5,000	55,000
*Vanderbilt University	2,500	10,000
Baylor University	5,000	40,000
*University of Texas		
(Southwestern Medical School)	2,500	5,000
Medical College of Virginia	5,000	40,000
*University of Washington	2,500	10,000
°Medical College of Wisconsin	5,000	10,000
Total	\$172,500	\$1,575,000

*Recipients of RPB Research Development Grants

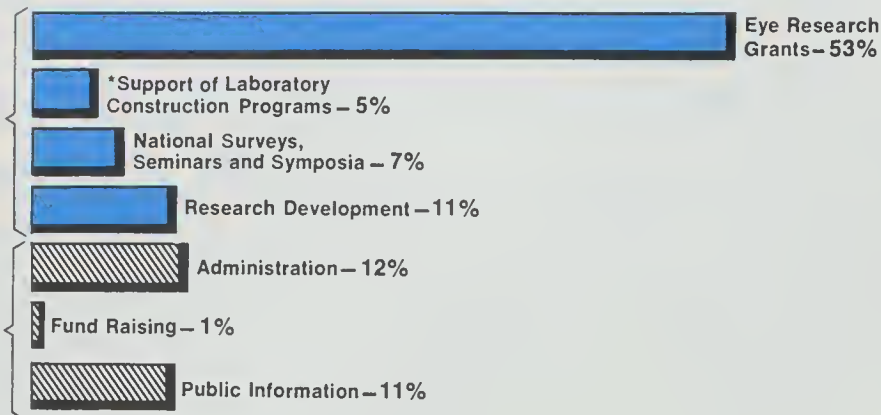
†New RPB Grantee

°Formerly Marquette School of Medicine

1960-1970

How RPB Funds Were Invested in Eye Research Programs

76%



All operating costs are paid by RPB's Board of Trustees.

RPB's operating costs are met through contributions from its volunteer Board of Trustees, thus freeing all other donations for programs in support of research. Its extremely low fund raising costs are the result of a highly selective approach to individuals, foundations and corporations.

*Represents expenditures in underwriting research building campaigns whose proceeds, amounting to \$12,000,000, were donated directly to the institutions involved, **not** to RPB.

The Economics of Eye Research

RPB is a publicly-supported voluntary organization. Its function is vastly different from that of government, and different from that of other voluntary agencies. It is a catalyst. An expeditor. A watchdog. A stimulator of new thought and action.

This should be clear in considering the economics of eye research, for it is sometimes presumed that heavy government financing will, alone, achieve health research goals and the delivery of better health services. Such government support is an absolute necessity. Its inadequacy in the field of eye research has delayed by years the work of blindness prevention.

But the fulfillment of national responsibility in eye research—or any other medical research—cannot be left to government alone, for government is but one element in the interaction of public, private, scientific, medical and political interests which can move seemingly immovable obstacles when properly coordinated. It is the role of the voluntary organization—of RPB—to continuously observe, nurture, stimulate and reenforce the intricate relationship of these forces so that they effectively serve the interests of the people.



William C. Conner
Treasurer

The importance of RPB's function emerges in the most critical circumstances of eye research development. Sometimes the RPB role is evident. Often it is not. But never has it served the public better than during 1970, when the full thrust of previous cutbacks in Federal research support hit hard at departments of ophthalmology across the country. One eminent investigator wrote that every item supported by RPB in 1970 was formerly supported by the National Institutes of Health. "If it were not for RPB," he said, "we simply could not have pursued those avenues of research, since our school, city and state budgets are likewise strained beyond the bursting point. It is my prediction that when there is again a resurgence of Federal money for ophthalmic research, it will be recognized that RPB played a significant role in keeping eye research alive while many other areas of biological research disappeared."

It may now be added that RPB was influential in having many of those cuts restored, and in the raising of the Federal appropriation for the National Eye Institute from \$24,342,500 for Fiscal Year 1970 to \$30,986,000 for Fiscal Year 1971.

While this is a substantial gain, it is hardly more than one percent of what the tragedy of blindness costs the nation, year after year. It falls far short of an adequate investment in our scientific potential for preventing blindness.

RPB sustains its operations through imaginative use of a comparatively small budget. Its contributed income for 1970 was \$621,956. More than \$200,000 of this amount was received in response to the traditional year-end appeal of RPB Chairman Dr. Jules Stein and Mrs. Stein. As in past years, Dr. and Mrs. Stein matched this amount with their personal contribution to RPB.

RPB fund raising expenses over eleven years remain at one percent. Its professional staff is the smallest among national voluntary organizations, maintaining its offices in space contributed by RPB's chairman. Yet, it has taken a struggling, neglected science and filled it with life and action. Its creative methods are attracting the interest and financial support of an increasing number of contributors who sense that RPB is providing new leadership in changing the patterns of philanthropy.

RPB Budget of Expenditures and/or Commitments—1971

Research Grants and Other Program Expenditures or Commitments:

Unrestricted Research Grants to Medical Schools and Other Institutions	\$200,000
International Research Scholars and Visiting Professors Program	100,000
Research Professorship Grants	150,000
Research Development Grants	25,000
Special, Emergency and Research Manpower Grants	50,000
Scientific Seminars and Symposia	17,500
Awards for Outstanding Ophthalmic Achievement	32,500
Research Laboratory Construction campaign expenses to provide new facilities at Eye Research Centers	100,000
Program Development	40,000
Public and Professional Information	70,000
	<u>785,000</u>

Operating Expenditures:

Staff Salaries and consultants' fees	35,000
Accountants' fee	4,000
Office equipment	1,000
General and health insurance	6,500
Pension and retirement plan	12,000
General administration	9,000
Fund raising	12,500
Contingencies	1,000
Total Operating Expenditures	<u>81,000</u>
Total Planned Expenditures and Commitments ..	<u>\$866,000</u>

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position—December 31, 1970

Assets:			
Cash:			
Checking accounts	\$	30,887	
Interest-bearing accounts		55,334	
Investments at cost:			
MCA Inc. common stock—			
26,442 shares (quoted			
market—\$618,082)			
(Note 2)	\$	866,699	
U.S. Government securities			
(quoted market—\$1,230,602)		1,220,783	
Corporate bonds (quoted			
market—\$448,975)		520,415	
Other securities (quoted			
market—\$50,801)		60,612	
Bank certificate of deposit		100,000	
		<u>2,768,509</u>	
Less—Reserve to reduce			
investments to quoted			
market		319,049	2,449,460
Interest and dividends			
receivable and other assets		37,641	
		<u>2,573,322</u>	
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued			
expenses		17,714	
Professorship grants		45,000	62,714
Net assets		<u>\$2,510,608</u>	
Fund balance:			
General fund		2,462,352	
William and Mary Greve Memorial			
Endowment Fund (Note 4)		48,256	
Total fund balance		<u>\$2,510,608</u>	

Statement of Operations

	Year ended December 31	
	1970	1969
Income:		
Donations:		
Securities, at market value on date of gift	\$ 406,167	\$ 265,729
Cash	215,232	198,504
Personal property, at amounts realized	557	6,818
	<u>621,956</u>	<u>471,051</u>
Interest and dividends	136,083	129,976
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	843	(21)
Unexpended professorship grant	19,631	
Total income	<u>778,513</u>	<u>601,006</u>
Program grants and expenditures:		
Research grants to medical schools and other institutions	183,306	195,200
Public information	57,416	48,876
Scientific surveys, seminars and symposia	11,136	41,210
Program development to stimulate laboratory expansion		
programs and the intensification of ophthalmological		
research activities	37,027	32,831
Scientific achievement awards program		6,181
Research manpower awards	1,984	2,000
Cost of raising funds for new eye research buildings (Note 1) ...	6,453	
	<u>297,322</u>	<u>326,298</u>
Expenses:		
Administration	60,719	57,133
Fund raising	5,762	5,502
	<u>66,481</u>	<u>62,635</u>
(Decrease) increase in reserve required to reduce		
investments to quoted market	(166,335)	419,099
Total deductions	<u>197,468</u>	<u>808,032</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	581,045	(207,026)
Net assets at beginning of year	1,929,563	2,136,589
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$2,510,608</u>	<u>\$1,929,563</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements—December 31, 1970

Note 1: Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. (RPB) makes it possible for selected medical centers to build major facilities for eye research by sponsoring construction campaigns for which it pays all fund raising costs. Contributions to such campaigns have been given by contributors directly to the medical institutions, and have not been received by or channeled through RPB. Therefore, only the fund raising expense is reflected in the accompanying statement of operations. During 1970, a construction campaign at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center was completed with reported contributions and pledges obtained since inception in excess of \$6,000,000, not including government funds; at year-end a campaign at Duke University was still under way. A preliminary survey was made in 1970 for an RPB construction campaign scheduled to begin in 1971 at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The research construction program has brought new eye research buildings to Johns Hopkins University (1964), the University of California, Los Angeles (1966), and the University of Louisville (1969).

Note 2: Substantially all of the MCA Inc. common stock held by Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. can be transferred or hypothecated only if registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or as is otherwise provided by law.

Note 3: Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. has a trustee pension plan covering all active employees who have completed one year of service. The total pension expense for the year was \$10,784 (1969—\$9,403), which includes amortization of past service cost over a period of 10 years. The plan has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service.

Note 4: In accordance with a decree of "Judgment on Judicial Settlement of Final Account of Trustees and Dissolution of Trust" issued by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, effective October 31, 1970, the William and Mary Greve Foundation Trust was dissolved and the trust's assets having a then current market value of \$48,256 were transferred to Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. to establish the William and Mary Greve Memorial Endowment Fund. Under the terms of the decree the principal balance of the fund must be permanently maintained.

Opinion of Independent Accountants

To the Board of Trustees
Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of financial position and related statement of operations present fairly the financial position of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. at December 31, 1970 and its income and expenses for the year, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. Our examination of these statements was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances, including confirmation of the cash and securities owned at December 31, 1970 by correspondence with the depositaries. It was impracticable for us to extend our examination of donations received beyond accounting for amounts so recorded.

Price Waterhouse & Co.

March 22, 1971
New York, N.Y.

An Answer to Inquiries by Foundations

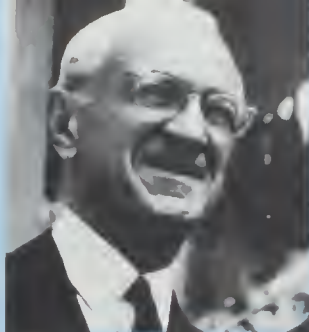
The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has recognized the status of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. as a qualified publicly supported tax exempt organization under the tax law of 1969. An IRS letter of determination dated November 9, 1970, identifies RPB "as an organization that is not a private foundation as defined in Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code."

The "Tax Reform Act" of 1969 has prompted inquiries from private foundations which are considering termination of their corporate existence by conveying their total assets to RPB.

The compelling reasons for this action go deeper than the 4% excise tax now to be levied on the net investment income of private foundations. Many are contemplating termination due to the requirement for distribution of all current income, the limitation on stock ownership and investment of assets, new publicity requirements, as well as other stringent standards which now must be adhered to if they, their managers and their trustees are to avoid penalties.

When asked for assistance, RPB has been pleased to guide such foundations in procedures for transferring their assets to a special fund within the framework of RPB which perpetuates the essential identity and visibility of the donor while advancing the entire eye research effort.

As a case in point, RPB recently created the William and Mary Greve Memorial Endowment as a permanent fund within RPB following the dissolution of the William and Mary Greve Foundation. The latter's assets of more than \$48,000 were conveyed to RPB in October of 1970. Thus, the memorial aspects of the original foundation have not been lost. Inquiries from private foundations are welcomed.



Jules C. Stein
Chairman

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. 598 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10022

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Public Information Director

Bequests to RPB are especially welcome as a means of assuring the continuity and stability of our eye research programs.

Memorial gifts

The proper form for such bequest is:

"I give and bequeath to Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. of 598 Madison Avenue, New York City, a membership corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, for its corporate purposes, the sum of
..... dollars."

Gifts may be made to Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. in any amount and will be acknowledged with dignity. An appropriate Memorial Card is sent in behalf of the giver to the family of the deceased. The donor receives a Thank You card of similar design.



**The promise of life
must also hold
the promise of sight**



RESEARCH TO PREVENT BLINDNESS, INC. 598 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022